

In the claims:

Claims 1 - 109: (Cancelled)

110. (New) A local area network node for use in a local area network in which at least some power is received by the node via communication cabling, the node comprising:

- circuitry required for reduced functionality of the node;
- circuitry required for full functionality of the node;
- a sensor sensing at least one of a condition of the power being received by the node via the communication cabling and a control signal being received via the communication cabling; and
- a controller in communication with and responsive to said sensor, said controller controlling distribution of the power received via the communication cabling to one of:
 - a) said circuitry required for reduced functionality, and
 - b) both of said circuitry required for reduced functionality and said circuitry required for full functionality.

111. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, further comprising a first power supply receiving the power from the communication cabling, said controller controlling distribution of said received power from said first power supply.

112. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, wherein said condition of the power comprises a voltage level of said received power.

113. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, further comprising monitoring circuitry, said monitoring circuitry sensing a parameter indicative of a requirement for said full functionality of the node.

114. (New) A local area network node according to claim 113, wherein said controller is in communication with and responsive to said monitoring circuitry.

115. (New) A local area network node according to claim 114, wherein said parameter is defined by a user input.

116. (New) A local area network node according to claim 114, wherein said parameter is defined by a control message received via said communication cabling.

117. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, further comprising a second power supply receiving power from an electrical mains.

118. (New) A local area network node according to claim 117, wherein said controller is in communication with and responsive to an output of said second power supply, said output being indicative of power availability from said second power supply.

119. (New) A local area network node according to claim 118, wherein said controller is further operable:

c) responsive to said output indicative of power availability from said second power supply, to supply power from said second power supply to both of said circuitry required for reduced functionality and said circuitry required for full functionality; and

d) in the absence of said output indicative of power availability from said second power supply, to control said distribution of the power received via the communication cabling responsive to said sensor.

120. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, wherein the node comprises one of a separator and a connector associated with said node.

121. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, wherein the node comprises at least one of a desktop computer; web camera; facsimile machine; IP telephone; computer; server; wireless LAN access point; emergency lighting system element; paging loudspeaker; CCTV camera; alarm sensor; door entry sensor; access control unit; laptop computer; hub; switch; router; monitor; memory back up unit for workstation; and memory back up unit for PC.

122. (New) A local area network node according to claim 110, wherein the node comprises an IP telephone, said IP telephone comprising circuitry providing speakerphone functionality not required for said reduced functionality.

123. (New) A local area network node for use in a local area network in which at least some power is received by the node via communication cabling, the node comprising:

- a least two circuitries providing different modes of functionality of the node;
- a sensor sensing a condition of the power received by the node via the communication cabling; and
- a controller in communication with said sensor, said controller operating at least one of said at least two circuitries responsive to said sensed condition.

124. (New) A local area network node according to claim 123, wherein said condition of the power comprises a voltage level of said received power.

125. (New) A laptop computer for use in a local area network in which at least some power is received by the node via communication cabling, the laptop computer comprising:

- at least two circuitries providing different modes of functionality of the laptop;
- a sensor sensing a condition of the power received by the node via the communication cabling; and
- a controller in communication with said sensor, said controller operating at least one of said at least two circuitries responsive to said sensed condition.

126. (New) A method of supplying power alternatively to essential circuitry and both of essential circuitry and non-essential circuitry, the method comprising:

receiving power at a local area network node over communication cabling;
sensing if sufficient power is available via said communication cabling to operate both essential and non-essential circuitry;
in the event that said sufficient power is sensed, supplying said received power to both the essential circuitry and the non-essential circuitry, and
in the event that said sufficient power is not sensed, supplying said received power only to the essential circuitry.

127. (New) A method according to claim 126, further comprising:

sensing if mains power is available;
in the event that available mains power is sensed, supplying mains power to operate both the essential circuitry and the non-essential circuitry, and
in the event that available mains power is not sensed, supplying said received power, responsive to said sensing, to one of only the essential circuitry and both the essential circuitry and the non-essential circuitry.

128. (New) A method of supplying power alternatively to circuitry required for reduced functionality and both of circuitry required for reduced functionality and circuitry required for full functionality, the method comprising:

receiving power at a local area network node over communication cabling;
sensing if sufficient power is available via said communication cabling to operate both of the circuitry required for reduced functionality and the circuitry required for full functionality;

in the event that said sufficient power is sensed, supplying power to both of the circuitry required for reduced functionality and the circuitry required for full functionality, and

in the event that said sufficient power is not sensed, supplying power to circuitry required for reduced functionality with highest priority.

129. (New) A local area network node for use in a local area network in which at least some power is received by the node via communication cabling, the node comprising:

circuitry required for reduced functionality of the node;

circuitry required for full functionality of the node;

a sensor sensing at least one of a condition of the power being received by the node via the communication cabling and a control signal being received via the communication cabling; and

a controller in communication with and responsive to said sensor, said controller supplying the power received via the communication cabling to one of:

a) said circuitry required for reduced functionality, and

b) both of said circuitry required for reduced functionality and said circuitry required for full functionality.